

Brad Carps



The Queen's Wave

For some reason, people love to shout at me while I walk home from work. Maybe it's my height or my new beard, or that I'm read-walking, but today I managed to interrupt them with loud laughter. It was just quick enough that I could see their reply expression.

Friend Shawna taught me a similar technique for dealing with obnoxious drivers: get everyone else in the car to slowly do **the queen's wave** until they are no longer in visual range. It's the disarming, creepy opposite of road rage.



Posted 6 days ago



1 note



Tagged with: troll



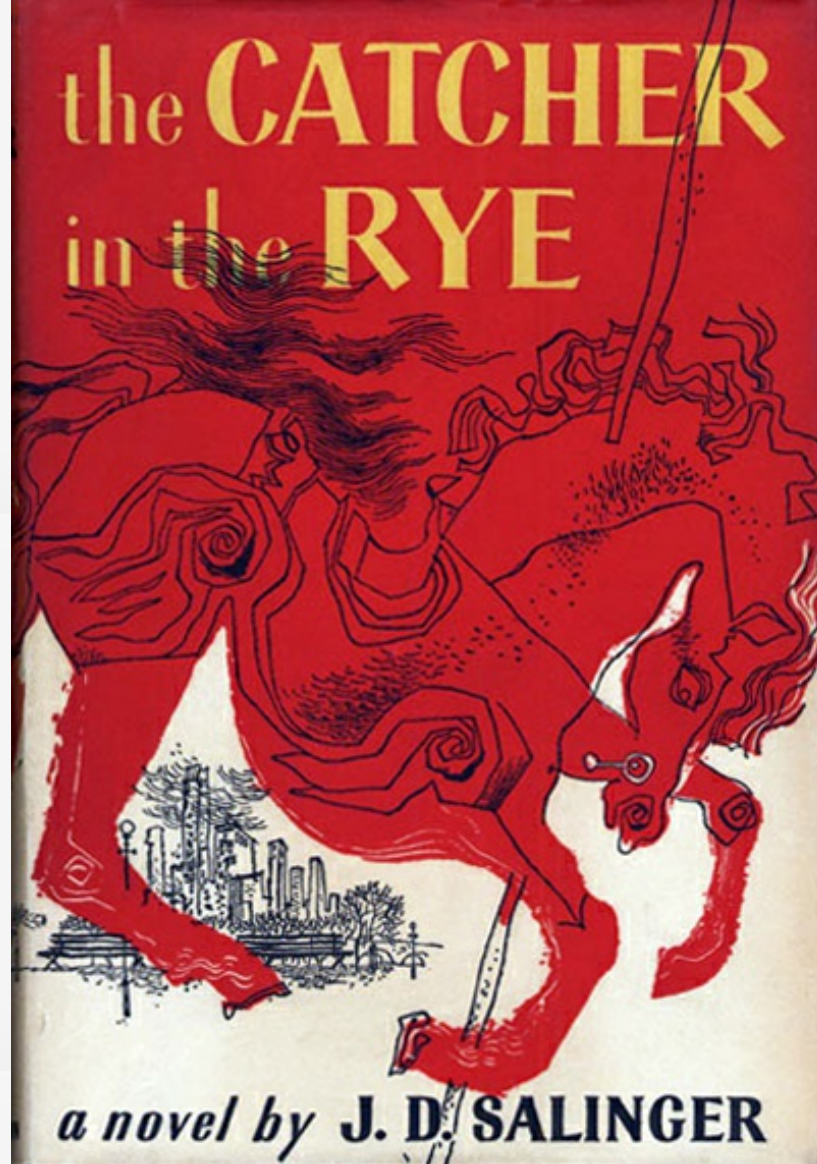
0 Comments and 0 Reactions



A Concerned Letter to the Banned Book Week Project Regarding "The Catcher in the Rye"

Greetings, fellow caretakers, librarians, intellectuals, and members of **bannedbookweek.org**. I am writing to encourage you to remove any mention of J.D. Salinger's *The Catcher in the Rye* from your list, campaign, and website, so future generations of students may be saved from the chore of reading this "classic."

While it's a classic in the sense that it is widely distributed, it's a chore, an offline MySpace blog about a self-absorbed, obnoxious twit. To clarify, I don't believe the book should be banned. No, that was exactly the cause of its fame, and why I was subjected to it during my youth. It should be ignored as poor literature, relinquished to a dusty shelf to rot in the forgotten library of our inattention.



As a teenager, I recall it was banned because of the extensive use of curse words, in particular, “fuck,” and every time I attempt to re-read it, that exact word comes to mind. As in, “why the fuck am I reading this again, this is the third fucking time?” or “J.D.-fucking-Salinger would not have had a career if this fucking book was not banned.”

Please pardon my coarse language. My inner voice is often quite harsh in regards to this particular topic.

While I doubt my request will be seriously considered, please at least take the time to re-read it for yourselves to verify my claim, or read it for the first time. Then proceed on to something more rewarding. Personally, I am poring through a wonderfully-illustrated copy of Twain’s *The Innocents Abroad*, which I highly recommend. I wish I was forced to read Twain as a teenager, instead of Salinger. Perhaps I would have started on the classics, sooner.

Finally, I don’t blame you for your well-intentioned and largely positive campaign. I just wish my former teacher had chosen chosen a different book from your list.

Thank you for your consideration.



Posted 1 week ago



Tagged with: fuck crazy old man in auburn yelling at kids to get off his lawn



2 Comments and 0 Reactions



So hey, you catch the game last night? This giant dude in

spandex pants totally threw a ball made of dead pork skin at another dude in shiny pants and then he ran super fast across a bunch of painted lines while more shiny-pant-wearing dudes chased him and leapt for his glistening spandex buttocks until he eventually crossed this other line which is apparently magical and makes the crowd stand up, bump chests, and clink bud-lights with each other. PIGGERS ARE NUMBER ONE! PIGGERS ARE GONNA GO ALL THE WAY THIS YEAR!



The Oatmeal

(Source: theoatmeal.com)



Posted 1 week ago



Tagged with: [lol](#) [comics](#)



0 Comments and 0 Reactions



Democracy Nukem Forever

Why doesn't the government collaborate with Nintendo (and for that matter, Microsoft and Sony) to make voting as easy as the Everybody Votes Wii Channel?

Certainly there would be security (read: fraud) and education concerns, but what system is perfect out of the gate? The individual vote is not that sacred in this constitutional republic, and it could be argued that voting with one's wallet is a more effective way to advance your causes. In my opinion, the lack of a perfect solution isn't a valid reason to not move forward, and an incentive-based video game or Facebook application seems like a great new paradigm to increase young voter participation.



Posted 2 weeks ago



Tagged with: [politics](#) [voting](#) [i will never be able to hold a political office](#)



2 Comments and 0 Reactions



“Kindness” by Naomi Shihab Nye

Before you know what kindness really is
you must lose things,
feel the future dissolve in a moment
like salt in a weakened broth.
What you held in your hand,
what you counted and carefully saved,
all this must go so you know
how desolate the landscape can be
between the regions of kindness.
How you ride and ride
thinking the bus will never stop,
the passengers eating maize and chicken
will stare out the window forever.

Before you learn the tender gravity of kindness,
you must travel where the Indian in a white poncho
lies dead by the side of the road.
You must see how this could be you,
how he too was someone
who journeyed through the night with plans
and the simple breath that kept him alive.

Before you know kindness as the deepest thing inside,
you must know sorrow as the other deepest thing.
You must wake up with sorrow.
You must speak to it till your voice
catches the thread of all sorrows
and you see the size of the cloth.

Then it is only kindness that makes sense anymore,
only kindness that ties your shoes
and sends you out into the day to mail letters and
purchase bread,
only kindness that raises its head
from the crowd of the world to say
it is I you have been looking for,
and then goes with you every where
like a shadow or a friend.



(Source: [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))



Posted 2 weeks ago



Tagged with: [poetry](#)



0 Comments and 0 Reactions



Going to be giving away a massive amount of books, soon...

I am making a list of my library to put on my future Kindle, subtracting the ones to re-read or read in the first place, and giving the rest away. More, later.



Posted 2 weeks ago



Tagged with: [kindle](#), [library](#), [simplifying my life](#)



0 Comments and 0 Reactions



Passion sets a Precedent

Your passion will not only inspire others, it will make it more acceptable for them to follow in your footsteps. This is important to remember while your critics are sharpening your swords.

Being truthful, speaking my mind about what needs to be done, and following the [written] rules may cost me my job, but I have the satisfaction of genuine improvement and I sleep well at night.

If I am fired, I find another job. So it goes.



Posted 2 weeks ago



Tagged with: [employment](#)



0 Comments and 0 Reactions



My Review of "9/11"

A group of militant, mostly Saudi troublemakers convince the superpowers of the world to strip away many of their freedoms in the most ineffective and expensive game of cat and mouse ever.

Several new friends of mine have asked me the old question, "why is 9/11 a joke to you," and my answer is still: I read a lot of Kurt Vonnegut Jr. If he was still alive (and not senile), I am certain he would have written a piercing, witty tale of the life of Khalil Ibrahim Omar al-Muslit, Saddam's supposed driver. Or perhaps the brief tale of the world's most nervous suicide bomber!

Humor is quite possibly the best coping mechanism our species has. I wasn't myself after 9/11 until I saw the home page art on The Onion. It had an amazing "9/11... HOLY SHIT" feel to it, and shocked me back to my senses.[1] There is a time for mourning, but that time is not forever. To paraphrase an ancient saying: "over time, the tragic becomes funny." [2]

9/11 has become a tool for intolerance, divisive politics, and justification for all manners of heinous international warcrimes. In my opinion, this is far more debasing of the memory than my tasteless jokes.

As usual, I present "The 9/11 Terrorcore Mix," by the GeoJedi, one of the finest commentaries on 9/11 to date:

A higher-resolution version can be found at his site:

<http://www.geojedi.org/professorpost911/>

1. Shame **their archive** doesn't seem to have it.
2. I have experienced and witnessed the truth of this statement countless times. My best stories are my most embarrassing or tragic.



Posted 3 weeks ago



Tagged with: [9/11](#) [9:11](#) [terrorism](#)



0 Comments and 0 Reactions



I Really Like Pie

Brad:

Someone is feeding me the old argument that if enough people don't vote, it will send a message to Washington, and somehow, things will change, as though inaction is a boycott. Naturally, I pointed out that if only 10% of people vote, then they simply hold all the power.

Brad:

If other people stop eating the pie out of principle, it means more pie for those who still partake.

Brad:

And shit, I love pie.

Brad:

I wish I had a pie fetish.

Brad:

Except I wouldn't stick my dick in a pie, I would just dive into it.

Brad:

See, that would be the best thing about those micro sex fetishes: pie and all other delicious food is bigger.

Brad:

Ha, I was just about to write "who gives a shit about sex."

Brad:

Man, I am getting old.

Brad:

Apparently I rank food higher than sex now.

Brad:

Becky was watching this one TV show about people going to a strip club, and one of the older main characters was saying how such clubs were degrading, but suddenly exclaimed "come to poppa!" -- he was talking about the breakfast and wings buffet, offscreen.



Posted 1 month ago



Tagged with: food pie chat



0 Comments and 0 Reactions



The Roseville Adventure Club

Greetings, Roseville city worker, kind enough to read this message.

I am writing out of concern for the clever but misleading name of the Roseville Adventure Club.

I ride by every weekday morning on my bicycle, and I finally thought that today would be a good day to inquire about adventure, only to find out there is none to be had for a person my age — your facility is a cleverly-named daycare center!

Much like an Oak street devoid of trees, I felt slightly put off. I don't expect any sort of resolution — namely because anything effective to resolve this matter would surely require resources the city doesn't have to waste — but I wanted to at least voice my concern.

Thank you for listening.

UPDATE 9/15: I received a response!

Hello-

Thank you for expressing your concern.

redacted

Recreation Specialist

Parks, Recreation, & Libraries



Posted 1 month ago



Tagged with: crazy old man in auburn yelling at kids to get off his lawn emails



3 Comments and 0 Reactions



Why I Don't Play The Sims

Shannon:

I had to add a blog about James Spader; I couldn't help myself. It's titled: James Spader -- The sick fucker for me.

Shannon:

I lump my Sims stuff with my normal stuff, 'cause I like to add pictures. I love my screenshots, especially because I can make sims that look like real people, anime chacters, whatever.

Brad:

Real life sim counterparts are the best.

Brad:

They could repace our legal system. Both sides would present arguments in menu form, and the Sims would work it out. The sad clown would be the judge and faulty kitchen wiring, the method of execution. Every crime carries a death sentence.



Posted 1 month ago



Tagged with: 2007 logs



0 Comments and 0 Reactions




“

He meows and says he still wants food. Can't find a better cat. He dreams of white, he dreams of dick. Can't find a better cat.

”

Me, sung to Pearl Jam's **Better Man**

 Posted 1 month ago

 Tagged with: [white kitty](#), [shut your cry hole](#) [crooked-head panther-face](#)

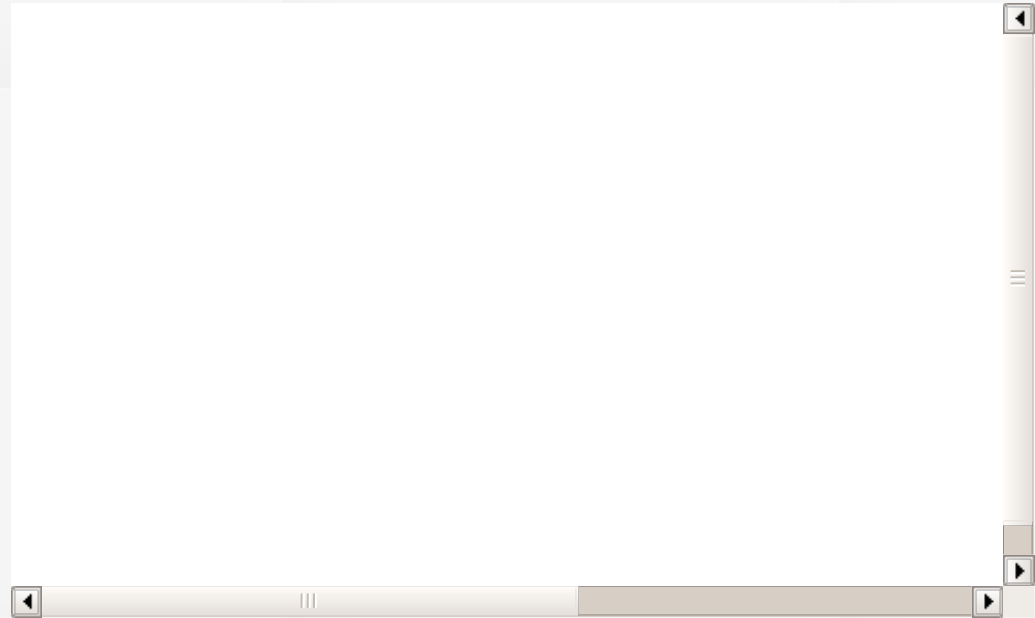
 0 Comments and 0 Reactions



Grocery List, by Aisle, with Google Docs


Becky and I have two very different styles of grocery shopping. I shop like my mother, entertaining possibilities while traversing all the aisles. She swears to never accompany me to Target ever again.

Behold, our compromise:



I print out two copies of a spreadsheet of items, with columns for Item Aisle, and Meal. When creating the list, I sort it by Meal, and delete (or hide) the dinner meals. Then, we add the items we want, along with the aisle it's in. When we have all the meals for the week ready, I sort it by Aisle, and we split it in half in such a way that we get the aisles we're best at.

I've noticed that we tend to optimize for our circumstance, but one of the reasons I enjoy the conversation of programmers, scientists, and philosophers is that the effort is explicit and frequent. Little improvements like these can go a long way. For example, this is just a first draft, but Becky did not run the cart into me or leave me behind once!

 Posted 1 month ago

 Tagged with: [the joys of marriage](#) [google docs](#)

 0 Comments and 0 Reactions



Hi, Eric Smith!

This is Eric Smith.



Back in October, he was responsible for distributing the company newsletter and calender PDF files for my employer. As you can see, he used a photo of himself.

Like any good employee who prints out and uses company calenders, I used mine for the entire month. And then in November, when the next one didn't arrive. And in December, and ever since, because frankly, the new person just didn't have the same pleasant demeanor as Mr. Smith.

Sometime within the first week, I added a speech bubble with a sharpie, so that he would say "hi" to me. I found this to be very positive!

Fresh Potatoes described me as "the weirdest white person she knows." My response was that she probably doesn't know enough white people and that we all get this way as we age.



Posted 1 month ago



Tagged with: [hi](#), [eric smith!](#), [work](#)



0 Comments and 0 Reactions



On Scientology

Scientology strikes me as a twisted Buddhism, as envisioned by **Kilgore Trout** and sold by Coca-Cola. Instead of eliminating delusions and attachments, you pay a conglomerate to remove physical "thetans." Great scheme.



Posted 2 months ago



Tagged with: [religion](#)



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